



State of Utah

Department of Natural Resources

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Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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March 26, 2004

TO: File

FROM: Paul Baker, Senior Reclamation Biologist *PAB*

SUBJECT: Site Inspection, Quality Building Stone, Unpermitted Quarries,
M/055/022, Wayne County, Utah

Date of Inspection: March 18, 2004
Time of Inspection: About 12:00 to 2:00 and 5:00 to 6:30 PM
Conditions: Mostly sunny, 60's
Participants: Wes Hansen and Dan Powell, Quality Building Stone; Buzz Rakow, Hanksville BLM; Paul Baker, DOGM

Purpose of Inspection:

For the site south of the Fremont River, the operator requested that we meet on site to discuss potential reclamation of a portion of the site. The operator also wanted to see how the GPS survey was conducted and to ensure that undisturbed areas were not included as part of the mine disturbance. I had a few problems with the GPS files created in January and wanted to be sure I had good readings and an accurate map.

I had not previously known the location of the site north of the Fremont River, so I needed to inspect the site and take GPS readings.

Getting to the Site:

Directions to the south quarry are in the report for the January 30, 2004, inspection. To get to the north quarry, start at the five mile marker on the road from SR 12 to Teasdale. Go north on a dirt road for 1.9 miles and turn left for about one-half mile. Veering to the left, you enter the stone storage and loading area.

Observations:

This inspection is for two quarries within about one-half mile of each other, one on the north side of the Fremont River and one on the south (see attached map). I visited the one on the south side of the river on January 30, 2004.

The Division has preliminarily determined that Quality Building Stone's sites should be permitted as one operation because of their proximity, so this report discusses both areas. During the inspection, the operator asked that they be kept separate. The issue of whether they should be permitted separately or together is beyond the scope of this inspection report and will need to be addressed in enforcement actions or in meetings with the operator. Each option has its advantages and disadvantages compared to the other.

South Site

I did not retake GPS measurements for the 1.4-acre loading area which is about 0.6 miles south of the south quarry. The GPS unit worked well the last time I did this, so there did not seem to be a need to retake these readings. The site is shown on the attached map.

When I last took GPS readings of the mine site, the GPS file data was somehow lost. I had noticed, before this data file was lost, that the disturbed area was 8.0 acres before taking into account an undisturbed area within the disturbed area boundary. This undisturbed area was measured as 0.4 acres, so the total disturbance in the quarry area was estimated to be 7.6 acres. Combining this with the 1.4 acres for the loadout area gives 9.0 acres. Because the data file for the quarry was lost, I was not able to create a map and could not confirm the 8.0-acre acreage figure. During the current inspection, I was very careful to only include the disturbed areas.

I measured the mine area in five features on the GPS. The largest area, a mining area on the east side of the disturbed area, was 3.17 acres. There were two mining areas or pads on the west side of the quarry, and I designated these as southwest pad (1.06 acres) and northwest pad (1.58 acres). Mainly to the north and east of the northwest pad were some roads. The total length of these roads was measured as 705 feet, and at 15 feet wide, the disturbed area would be 0.24 acres. The final area was a road/storage area in the bottom of the drainage comprising 0.32 acres, so the total disturbance at the mine site itself was 6.37 acres. Adding the loading area (1.40 acres), the total disturbance in this area comes to 7.77 acres, somewhat less than the 9.0 acres previously estimated.

Other conditions had not changed since the last inspection.

North Site

I used the GPS to measure the area of this site in two pieces. The larger area on the attached map is relatively flat and consists of roads and scattered areas of disturbance from storing and loading sandstone blocks. Some of this disturbed area has no more disturbance than tracks or grouzer marks and would be very easy to reclaim, but most of it continues to be used for storing and loading stone. Some views of this area are in Photos 1 through 3.

Photo 2 shows an old sawmill. I excluded this area from my GPS measurements but did not exclude any other areas. The perimeter of the loading and storage area is convoluted, but there were no other undisturbed areas within the disturbed area.

On the south side of this area was a powder magazine shown in Photo 4. It was locked and appeared to have a ground wire.

The pit or quarry itself is on the southwest side of the disturbed area. Photos 5 and 7 show the pit. Photo 7 is a panorama of two pictures. I did not attempt to measure the overburden depth, but I would guess the stone being mined is under about 20-30 feet of material.

On the south side of the pit, waste material has been graded to the south toward the Fremont River. On the east side, the waste forms a slope extending to the flat alluvial terrace below (Photo 8), but on the west, it goes just down to the top of a cliff, at least as far as I could see (Photo 6).

When collecting GPS measurements, I did not go down to the bottom of the waste because it was too dangerous. Rather, I walked near the summit of the waste and estimated how much farther out the waste extended compared to where I was walking. On the map, the line on the entire south side of the pit was modified in the office based on this estimate. Where the waste goes to the edge of the cliff, the line was extended out about 30 feet, and where it goes to the valley floor, the line was extended out 50 feet. The acreage figures are based on this estimate.

While I could see that a lot of rocks had rolled to the bottom of the slope where waste extended to the valley floor, I could not see the base of the

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cliff. It is likely some waste has fallen from the cliff to the base. During the next inspection, it would be good to go to this area and see exactly how much disturbance there is.

Acreage figures for the north quarry are 6.43 acres for the storage and loading area (excluding the sawmill) and 4.61 acres for the quarry itself for a total of 11.04 acres.

The map included with this report shows a purple area labeled as "Unknown Quarry and Loading/Processing Area." Please note that *none* of the acreage for this quarry was included as part of the disturbed area for Quality Building Stone's operations.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The notice of noncompliance issued for this site indicates the operator does not have a reclamation bond. During the inspection, the operator showed me a copy of a reclamation bond with the Bureau of Land Management as the beneficiary. This bond was initiated in 1982 and is in the amount of \$3000.

A notice of noncompliance was issued after the January 2004 inspection, but the notice should be modified to reflect the difference in acreage figures and the reclamation bond with the BLM. This bond would need to be modified to include the Division as a beneficiary if the Division is to recognize it.

A notice of noncompliance should also be issued for the north quarry. This may be part of the modified notice for the south quarry or it could be a new notice.

The operator has indicated a willingness to reclaim part of the disturbed areas to reduce the amount of bond that would be required. A lot of the storage and loading area at the north quarry could be easily reclaimed. There are portions of the south quarry and loading area to the south that could also be reclaimed. The best time to do this would be in the fall although the operator should do any basic grading as soon as possible.

PBB:jb

cc: Wes Hansen, Quality Building Stone

Buzz Rakow, BLM, Hanksville

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ATTACHMENT

Photographs

M/055/022, Quality Building Stone, Unpermitted Quarry
Inspection Dated: March 18, 2004; Report Dated: March 26, 2004

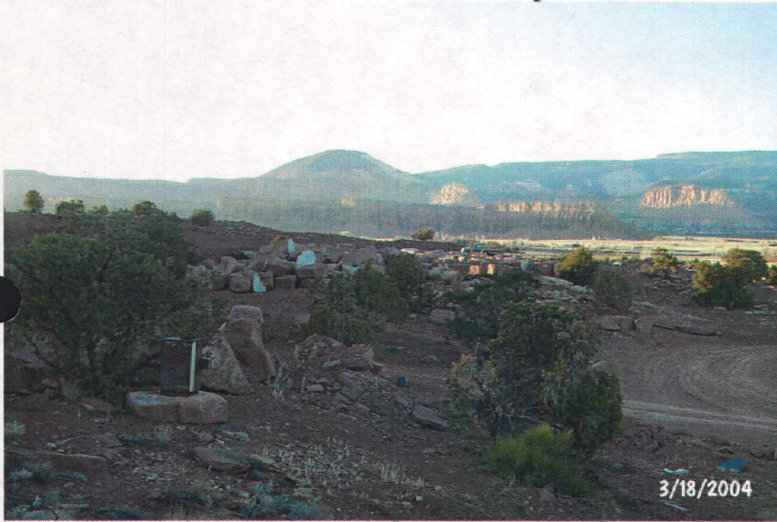


Photo 1. Part of the storage and loading area.



Photo 3. One more view of the storage and loading area. This is just to the east (right) of Photo 2.



Photo 2. Another view of the storage and loading area. The old sawmill is in the center of the pictures.

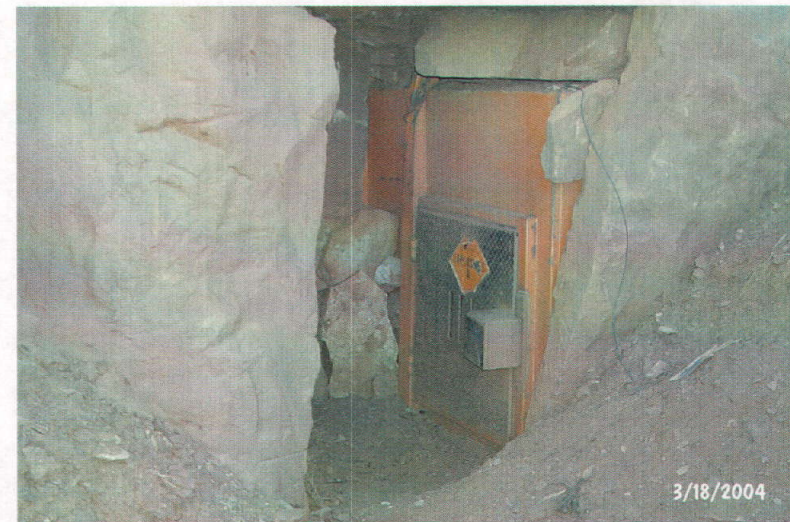


Photo 4. The powder magazine.



Photo 5. The quarry looking toward the northeast.



Photo 6. View from the top of the overburden pile toward the Fremont River. This slope ends at a cliff.



Photo 7. Another view of the quarry.

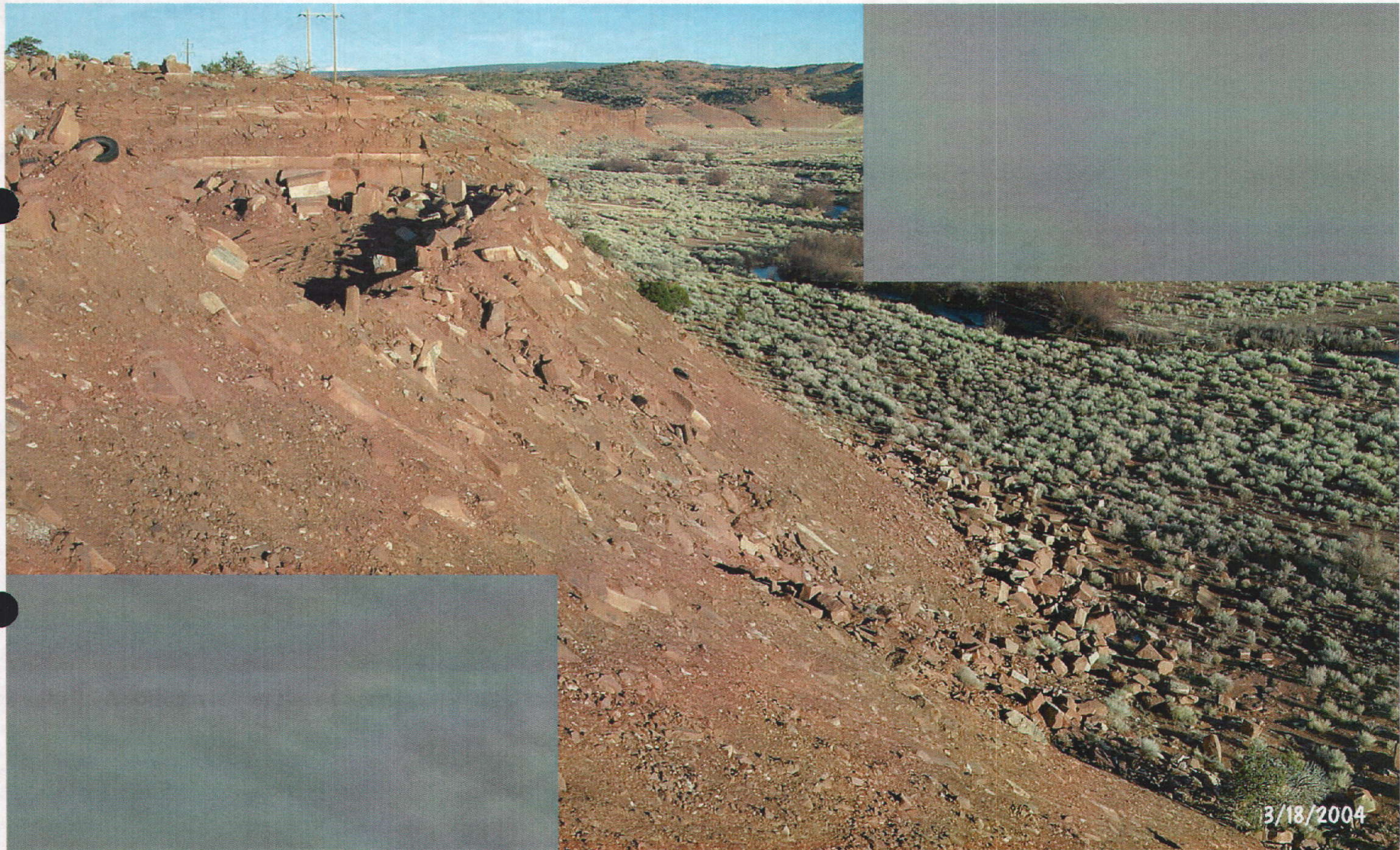
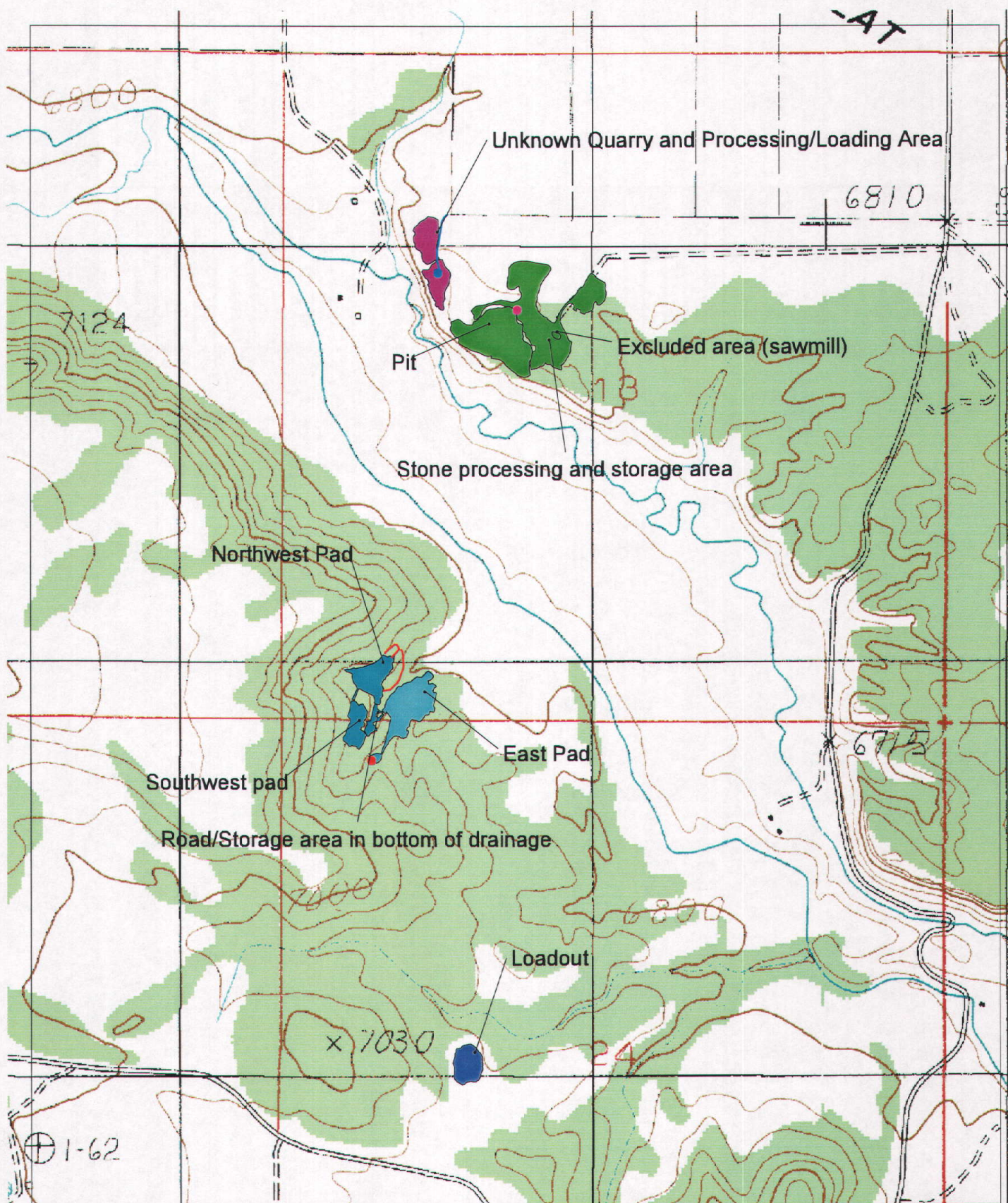




Photo 8. This is where the overburden outslope extends to the valley floor and is just to the east of the area shown in Photo 6.




 Dept. of Natural Resources
 Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
 Mineral Mines Program

Different data sources and input scales
 may cause misalignment of data layers.
 This product may not meet DOGM
 standards for accuracy and content.

300 0 300 600 Feet


Contour Interval: 40 feet



Mine Number: M/055/022
 Mine Name: Unpermitted--Quality Building Stone
 Township 29 S Range 4 E Sections 13 and 24 SLBM
 Torrey Quad

Drafted by PBB	March 25, 2004
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